



WAYS AND MEANS

Expanding Oversight of Opioid Prescribing and Payment Act H.R. 5723

Background: Stakeholder responses to the February 27, 2018, request for information (RFI) letter from the Ways and Means Committee, as well as the Christie Commission Final Report, indicated that there are likely financial incentives in the Medicare hospital payment system that cause overprescribing of opioids.

Summary: By March 15, 2019, the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) is required to report to Congress on (1) Medicare payment for pain management treatment options in a hospital setting; (2) Incentives under Medicare hospital payment for prescribing opioids relative to non-opioid alternatives; and (3) Tracking and monitoring of opioid use through Medicare claims. MedPAC may also make recommendations to address these issues.